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Dated: September 21, 2011
Electronic Signature for Sandra Szela Congdon: /Sandra Szela Congdon/

Docket No.: 2003P87067WOUS
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Warren T. Johnson

Application No.: 10/595,841

Confirmation No.: 7643

Filed: November 12, 2004

Art Unit: 1778

For: MODULE CLEANING METHOD

Examiner: D.R. Anderson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR § 1.114 (37 CFR § 1.97(b)(4)).

No fee or certification is required.

PART II: Information Cited

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicants have not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicants submit herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(2).

Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the European Examination Report dated April 13, 2011 from the corresponding European Application No. 04797016.5.

Applicants would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the following other information, whose relevance is discussed in Part III below:

PART III: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

The following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified):

JP 1-501046 appears to be directed to cleaning of hollow fibre filters. An English Abstract of the corresponding WO 88/01529 is enclosed.

JP2002-527229 appears to be directed to a cyclic aeration system for submerged membrane modules. An English language Abstract of corresponding WO00/21890 is attached.

JP2003-275548 appears to be directed to a film separator. An English Abstract is attached.

JP4-190889 appears to be directed to an operation method for a sewage treating device. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP4-256425 appears to be directed to a back washing device for filtration. An English language Abstract is enclosed.

The following are remarks concerning the other information cited:

PART IV: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.
2. The enclosed form be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application; and
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(a) exists.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50/2762, under Reference No. M2019-7064US.

Dated: September 21, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

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